

BATMAN
PENCIL

REDAN

I LOVE TO READ

WITH PULL-OUT
WORKBOOK

BATMAN



INSIDE:
• THE RIDDLER
• HAWKMAN

EVERY MONTH
N°8 £1.10



 ACTION  STORIES  ADVENTURE 



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to another issue of **I Love to Read Batman** which, as always, is packed with loads of fun things to read and puzzles to solve.

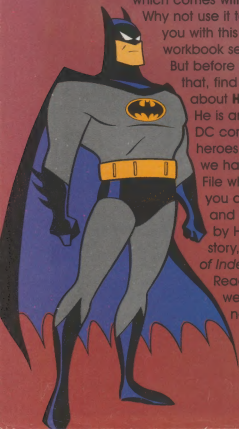
Once more, we have some really great stories for you including another Riddler story. As you may remember, the Riddler appeared in issue 3. This time, in *Stroke of Genius*, Batman must find out why the Riddler is sending the wealthy citizens of Gotham City some very deadly letters.

Then join the Dark Knight in his adventure, *McGuffin's Disc*. A computer expert leaves a mysterious clue for Batman to solve just before he has a run in with some gangsters. Find out if Batman solves the mystery.

How do you like your free **Batman pencil** which comes with this issue?

Why not use it to help you with this month's workbook section?

But before you do that, find out all about **Hawkman**. He is another of DC comics' super heroes. As usual we have a Hero File which tells you all about him and is followed by Hawkman's story, *Declaration of Independence*. Read on and we'll see you next time.



REDAN

I LOVE TO READ

BATMAN™

3 STROKE OF GENIUS

Why are Bruce Wayne and other wealthy Gothamites being sent letter bombs? Batman sets about finding out.

7 RIDDLE ME THIS?

Where will the Prince of Puzzlers strike next? Solve the puzzle to find out!

8 MCGUFFIN'S DISC

McGuffin wants to help the police catch his crime lord boss, but when the gangsters get to him first, Batman must find the evidence himself.

12 POSTER

Pull out this great picture of Hawkman and put it up on your wall.

13 BATMAN WORKBOOK

An eight-page pull-out workbook full of puzzles and games especially for you.

22 DYNAMIC DISPATCHES

A fun page filled with some great pictures and letters sent in by you, our readers.

23 HERO FILE

Who is Hawkman and where does he come from? Find out in this month's file.

25 DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Some bullies force a young boy to help them with a robbery. But when the police arrive at the scene of the crime, will they believe he is innocent?

STROKE OF GENIUS

In his secret headquarters, the Riddler was up to no good.



Next morning the mail arrived at Wayne Manor...



...bringing an unexpected parcel for Bruce Wayne. Alfred read the card...



A RIDDLE LIKE THAT COULD ONLY MEAN ONE THING...



Bruce reported his lucky escape to the police at once. He learned that he was not the only target of the mad bomber.



Other important citizens had been sent bombs that morning too. The police needed to catch the bomber before someone got hurt.



Together, Batman and Commissioner Gordon sorted through the evidence. Each bomb had come with a riddle attached.



FORGET THE RIDDLES THEMSELVES, COMMISSIONER, THE IMPORTANT FACT IS THAT THESE CARDS HAVE BEEN PRINTED.



Batman traced the printing to an old greetings card factory on the edge of town. There was no sign of the Riddler.



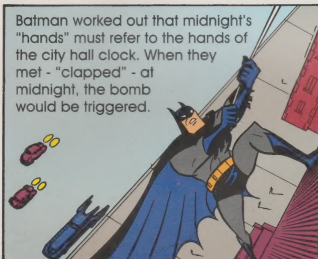
But the presses were still printing out cards, all with the same message...



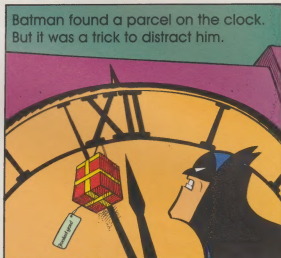
The riddle surely meant another bomb which was set to explode at midnight and ruin the city.



Batman worked out that midnight's "hands" must refer to the hands of the city hall clock. When they met - "clapped" - at midnight, the bomb would be triggered.



Batman found a parcel on the clock. But it was a trick to distract him.

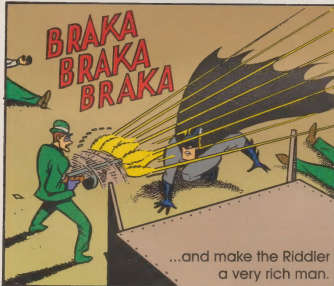
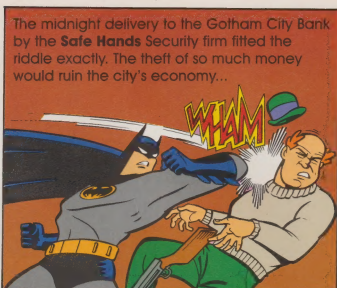


Batman had to think fast. What could the Riddler's real plan be.



Whatever it was, the Riddler was putting it into action right at that moment, assuming Batman was busy elsewhere.







RIDDLE ME THIS ?

Batman's archenemy, the Riddler, can never resist leaving a clue to his latest crime for Batman and Robin. The solution to this puzzle will reveal where the Riddler plans to strike next and what he is after this time.

To solve the puzzle, first find the names of the fourteen super-heroes hidden forward, backward, up, and down in the grid below. After you have circled all of the names, write the uncircled letters into the spaces below. Be sure to keep them in order. But watch out, because the last eight remaining letters are mixed-up! Unscramble them to learn the answer to the riddle. If you get stuck, the solution is at the bottom of the page.

W S H S U P E R G I R L A T
H U N T R E S S N W O U L W
A P D A T H E R I I D D L O
Q E E R R S T E W A L F R R
U R O F L A S H T M N T N R
A M H I E B A N H K A O A A
M A F R O B I N G A M L M N
A N A E S K A D I L K C T E
N A M O W R E D N O W O A E
H A Y R A N A C K C A L B R
B L U E B E E T L E H S C G

AQUAMAN	HUNTRESS
BATMAN	NIGHTWING
BLACK CANARY	ROBIN
BLUE BEETLE	STARFIRE
FLASH	SUPERGIRL
GREEN ARROW	SUPERMAN
HAWKMAN	WONDER WOMAN

----- ?

C O L D c a s h !



IN THE SEARCH FOR...

McGUFFIN'S DISC

Hiding in the shadows of an underground car park, Harry McGuffin looked at his watch. The luminous face showed 11:52 pm. Worried that even the tiny light might give him away, he thrust his hand into his coat pocket. There, his fingers clasped around a computer disc.

One phone call to Police Commissioner Gordon had set up the meeting. Soon, McGuffin thought to himself, he and his evidence - the disc detailing all Gunther's criminal activities - would be safe with Batman. He risked another glance at his watch; 11:56 pm.



McGuffin was due to meet the Batman at midnight. In exchange for the Dark Knight's protection, McGuffin was prepared to give evidence against his gangster boss, Karl Gunther. Gunther had only recently hired McGuffin as an accountant and computer expert, but when he saw what an evil racketeer Gunther was, he wanted out.

Just then, a squeal of tires and a roar from an engine echoed through the car park. "At last - the Batmobile!" thought McGuffin. He stepped from the shadows - and into the glare of a black sedan's headlights.

McGuffin raised his hands to shield his eyes, not realising the disc was still in his fingers. The car accelerated. He backed away, but the light grew stronger, fiercer - then everything went black.

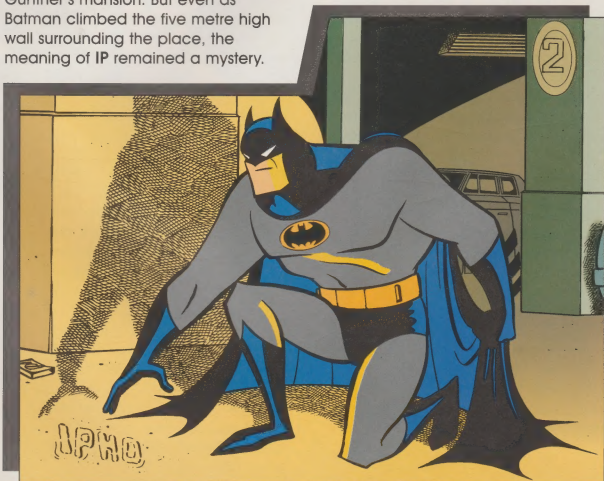
Someone from the car grabbed the disc, and moments later the sedan screeched out of the exit. Approaching in the Batmobile, Batman saw what happened and feared the worst.

McGuffin was unconscious when Batman found him, but before passing out, he had scrawled the initials **I P H D** in the dust on the floor. Batman radioed for an ambulance, then sped from the car park, heading for Gunther's highly secure mansion.

The Dark Knight suspected the computer expert's message signalled that the evidence was not gone for good. Perhaps **HD** stood for **hard drive**, on McGuffin's computer at Gunther's mansion. But even as Batman climbed the five metre high wall surrounding the place, the meaning of **IP** remained a mystery.

Peering over the wall, Batman saw remote controlled cameras turning in slow arcs fixed to the corners of the mansion's roof. It would be easy to sprint across the thirty metres to the house while the cameras were pointed elsewhere. Too easy. There had to be something more.

The Dark Knight pulled the infra-red goggles from his Utility Belt. Once in place, they showed him a series of alarm beams invisible to the naked eye which criss-crossed the open ground. When the cameras turned away again, Batman dropped over the wall. He raced forward, dodged the beams, and at the mansion, pressed against a wall to avoid being detected by the cameras above.





Moments later, a car drew up to the gates guarding the driveway to the house. It was the black sedan. The long driveway swept left to right on its way to the house. Batman would be caught in the car's headlights as it moved up the drive. The gates were opening electronically when Batman saw it - a ground-floor window left slightly ajar.

The car started up the drive. Batman edged along the wall to the window. Tugging it open, he slipped inside the room, pulled the window closed again, and ducked as the headlight beams found the glass. Briefly, the room was illuminated. Batman saw a computer on the desk, and knew he was in McGuffin's office. The computer expert must have left the window unlocked on purpose.

Batman quickly switched on the machine. He punched in the command to review the names of documents stored on the computer's hard drive. Row upon row of headings appeared on the monitor, but nothing titled **IP** was there.

In the next room, Gunther stood at a large mantelpiece, gazing down at a roaring fire. He heard the doors of the sedan slam shut outside and smiled.

Scanning the lists of names again, Batman's eyes locked on to a document titled **Insurance Policy**. "**IP** - that's it!" he thought, keying in the instructions to bring the document on screen. A glance at the first page told Batman it was McGuffin's evidence. He found a blank disc, pushed it into the disc drive, and began copying the document.

"All done, Boss," said Gunther's chief henchman next door, handing over McGuffin's disc. Gunther snorted and threw it into the fire. After a moment's thought, he added, "Maybe that's not quite all. Something incriminating might still be in that machine of his. Just to be sure, get the boys and some baseball bats..."

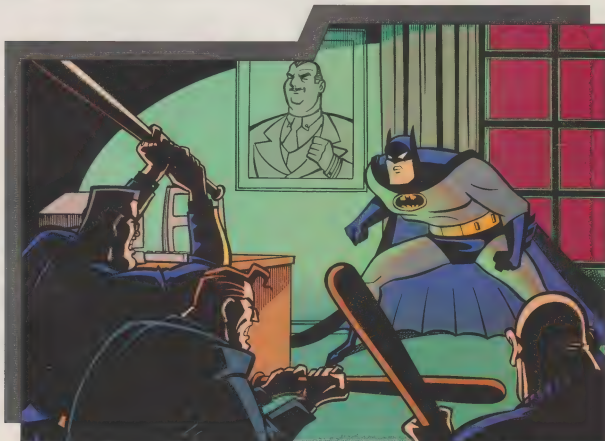
The footsteps alerted Batman. The door opened, but Gunther's men froze in the doorway, stunned at the sight of the Dark Knight inside. "Get him!" yelled Gunther.

The heavies charged, baseball bats raised to strike. Batman leapt out of the chair, took a stride, and crashed through the window. Gunther's men were set to give chase when they heard their boss roar with laughter. "Let him go," he howled, pushing the eject button on the computer's disc drive. "He's got nothing!" Out popped the disc. "He left it behind!"

An hour later, on the roof of Police Headquarters, Commissioner Gordon frowned. "You've been in tighter spots, Batman," he remarked. "I'm surprised you didn't make a fight of it."

"Wouldn't have achieved anything," replied Batman, handing a computer disc to Gordon. "By then, I had what I wanted."

Gordon understood at once. "That was a blank disc you left in the computer - you'd already made the copy before they came into the room. Clever..." he mused, turning to gaze out over the Gotham skyline. "...Gunther will think that we've got nothing and that he's safe. But with McGuffin recovering in hospital, plus all his evidence, we have everything we need to build a watertight case. I've got to hand it to you, Batman," smiled Gordon. Yet as he turned back, he saw there was no point in going on, for Batman had silently slipped away into the night.





BATMANTM

WORKBOOK

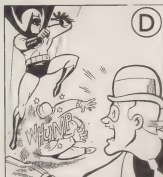
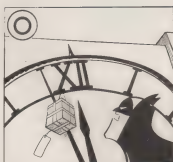
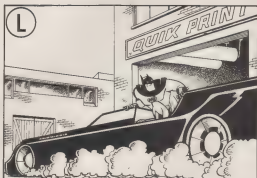
DOT TO DOT

Join the dots from 1-46
on this picture to find
out where Batman is!



ALL MIXED UP

These pictures have been taken from this month's comic strip story. Put them in the **correct order** (1-7) and write the letter from each picture in the boxes below to find a word used in the story.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7

YOU NEED HANDS

In the story, *Stroke of Genius*, the Riddler tried to fool Batman with his riddle about the clock HANDS. Now he's handed out a riddle for you! Look at the pictures below. All their names contain the word HAND in them. Fill in the missing letters to describe each picture.



HAND ~~stand~~
stand

HAND ~~some~~

HAND ~~kerchief~~



HAND ~~cuffs~~

HAND ~~bag~~

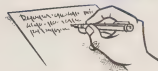
HAND ~~breaks~~



HAND ~~shake~~

HAND ~~saw~~

CHAND ~~ice~~
clear



HAND ~~bell~~

HAND ~~rail~~

HAND ~~write~~
writing

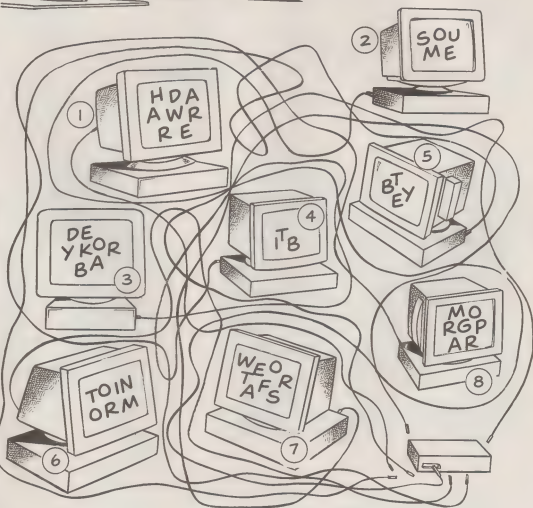
COLOURING



SCREEN MIX UP

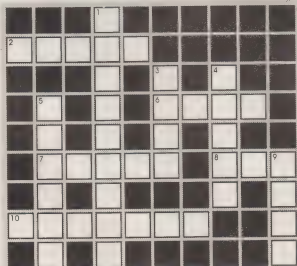


A bug has got into the computers below and mixed up the letters in the words on all the screens. Help Batman rearrange the letters to spell the words, then find which computer is linked to the drive below.



CROSS-BIRD

Look at these pictures of different types of birds. Can you help Hawkman fill in the crossword with the birds' names? To help you, all the names are shown in the box at the bottom of the page.



SWAN
OWL

OSTRICH
THRUSH

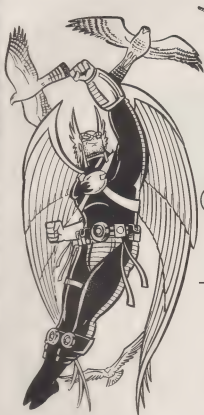
EAGLE
HERON

ROBIN
LARK

BLACKBIRD
WREN

BIRD QUIZ

Hawkman has set this quiz for you to find out how much you know about birds. Name the birds in the pictures by filling in the spaces beneath them. As you can see, every bird has a letter next to it. Answer the questions by writing the correct bird's letter in each box.



1. What bird is often seen on Christmas cards?
2. What bird is said to be wise?
3. What bird is the emblem of New Zealand?
4. What bird is the fastest creature on two legs?
5. What bird lives in the Tower of London?
6. What bird is used to carry messages?
7. What bird steals bright objects?
8. What bird is said to bring new-born babies?





ANSWERS

DOT TO DOT
Batman is in the BATMOBILE.

ALL MIXED UP
The word is EXPLODE

YOU NEED HANDS
HANDKERCHIEF / HANDSTAND / HANDSOME
HANDCUFFS/ HANDBAG/ HANDLEBARS
HANDSHAKE / HANDSAW / CHANDELIER
HANDBELL/ HANDBELL / HANDWRITING

SCREEN MIX UP

1. HARDWARE
2. MOUSE
3. KEYBOARD
4. BIT
5. BYTE
6. MONITOR
7. SOFTWARE
8. PROGRAM

Screen 2 is linked
to the drive.

CROSS-BIRD

			B							
E	A	G	L	E						
		A		S		H				
	T	C		W	R	E	N			
	H	K		A	R					
	R	O	B	I	N		O	W	L	
	U	I					N		A	
	O	S	T	R	I	C	H			R
	H		D							K

BIRD QUIZ
A = MAGPIE, B = STORK,
C = ROBIN, D = RAVEN,
E = PIGEON, F = OSTRICH,
G = KIWI, H = OWL

1:C, 2:H, 3:G, 4:F,
5:D, 6:E, 7:A, 8:B



A dynamic comic book illustration of Hawkmann in flight. He is shown from the waist up, wearing a black suit with a blue glowing chest piece and a yellow circular emblem on his chest. His wings are large and yellow with black outlines. He is flying over a cityscape with various buildings, including a prominent one with a white window. The sky is blue with some white clouds. The title 'HAWKMAN' is written in large, bold, red letters with a yellow outline, slanted upwards from left to right.

HAWKMAN

DYNAMIC DISPATCHES



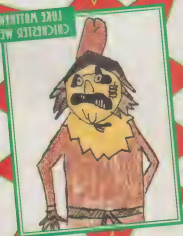
MATTHEW MOSZES
ROTHERHAM



ALEXANDER AND JONATHAN WARD
BRIDPORT

LOOK AT ALL THESE GREAT
PICTURES AND LETTERS.
THERE'S JUST NOT ENOUGH
ROOM TO FIT ALL THE MAIL
WE RECEIVE ON THIS PAGE
BUT KEEP WRITING IN AND
WE WILL KEEP PRINTING AS
MANY AS WE CAN!

LUKE MATTHEWS
CHESTER WEST



Dear I love to Read Batman,
I love Batman and I have all
your issues. I think the
magazines are brilliant and if
there was a magazine contest I
would judge it the best. My
favourite characters are Batman,
the Atom and Wonder Woman. I loved
the issue 3 with her story about the
Amazon and I also loved the
pull-out poster.

Craig Matthews
Kilburn

Thanks for your enthusiastic
letter, Craig. And since you're
such a fan of Wonder Woman, you'll
be glad to know that she will have
another story in next month's
magazine.

Editor



MARCO DIPIERTO
LONDON

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR LETTER,
JOKE, PICTURE OR PHOTOGRAPH
PRINTED IN I LOVE TO READ BATMAN,
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C/O DYNAMIC DISPATCHES

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SORRY WE CANNOT WRITE BACK TO YOU
INDIVIDUALLY BUT WE WILL PRINT AS MANY OF
YOUR LETTERS AS WE CAN. PLEASE REMEMBER TO
INCLUDE YOUR NAME, AGE, ADDRESS AND AGE 13
YOU WANT YOUR PHOTOS RETURNED.



CAROL NOLAND
ST HELENS



THE HERO FILE

Alter ego: Katar Hol

Place of Origin:
Thanagar

Status: Police officer
(on Thanagar); Exile (on
Earth)

Known Relatives:
Paran Katar (father,
deceased); Naomi Carter
(mother)

Group Affiliation:
Partner of Shayera Thal-
Hawkwoman (fellow
exile)

Base of Operation:
Chicago, Illinois, and
vicinity

**Historical First
Appearance:**
THE BRAVE AND THE
BOLD #34 (March, 1961)

**Most Recent
Appearances:**
HAWKWORLD (limited
series, 1989); HAWK-
WORLD (monthly series,
1990 to 1993); HAWKMAN
(1993 to present)

Height: 6 feet, 1 inch

Weight: 195 pounds

Eyes: Blue

Hair: Black

PHOTO: MIKE PIERCE; ILLU: RICK KIMCHI; CAPS: TOM MCGRAW

HAWKMAN

One of our greatest heroes, Hawkman is also one of the few super-heroes to come from another planet. Hawkman, also known as Katar Hol, was born on the planet Thanagar. His father, Paran Katar, was a renowned scientist who invented an antigravity metal that enabled people to fly. Katar Hol learned how to use his father's invention when he became a Wingman, one of Thanagar's police officers.

At that time, most of Thanagar's population were very poor and were treated as slaves. Paran Katar sympathized with the workers and did what he could to help them, which angered many of the corrupt Wingmen. One of them, an officer named Byth, tricked Katar Hol into killing his own father, Paran.

For his crime, Katar Hol was exiled to an abandoned island for ten years. During that time, he came to realize that his father's death was not completely his fault and swore revenge upon Byth. Escaping, Katar found an ally in a female Wingman, Shayera Thal. Together, they opposed Byth, eventually pursuing him to Earth. After defeating Byth, they both found they loved the freedom of this new world and stayed on as fighters of injustice.

Hawkman recently discovered that his mother was actually an Earthling, Naomi Carter. A Native American, she had married Hawkman's father during one of Paran's visits to Earth. Returning with him to Thanagar, where Katar was born, she found that world too cruel and corrupt and returned to Earth.

Hawkman is particularly interested in the United States, which is very different from his world. On Thanagar, only the very rich are given the freedom to do what they want; everyone else is told what to do by the government. Hawkman is fascinated by the concept of democracy.

Hawkman's antigravity belt is what actually helps him fly; his wings serve only to control his speed and direction. The belt also enables him to lift extremely heavy objects.

Thanks to his training as a Wingman, Hawkman is a powerful hand-to-hand fighter. He is skilled with various Thanagarian weapons and is becoming proficient with Earth weapons, particularly a giant dagger known as the *Katar*.

Although Hawkman prefers to fight alone or with his partner, Hawkwoman, he also has teamed with the super-hero group the Justice League. Hawkman has encountered many villains over the years, including:



Byth:

Thanks to an experimental drug, Byth is able to change his body into anything he wants. Byth often changes into horrible,

freakish creatures, but also can take the shape of something as ordinary as a chair if he wishes to hide in plain sight.

Count Viper:

Etienne du Vipere has lived since the eighteenth century, thanks to his ability to switch minds with others. Thus, whenever he is near death, he can simply change bodies with another person who is not in danger. He also has many other powers of the mind, including the ability to levitate, start fires, and move objects simply by concentrating.



Shadow Thief:

An industrial spy, Carl Sands is an American who was given a Thanagarian Shadow Field Generator by Byth. With this generator, he can become a living shadow and make himself intangible.



—Scott Peterson

HAWKMAN

A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

States of America.

The unanimous Declaration

[illegible]

FROM THE QUARTY OF KATAR NO. 1:

"ON JULY 4, 1776, THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIES ADOPTED A BRAVE AND NOBLE DOCUMENT THAT CUT THEIR TIES WITH ENGLAND.

"THAT DOCUMENT, WRITTEN AND SIGNED BY THE GREATEST STATESMEN OF THE TIME, SIGNALLED THE START OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND LED TO THE FORMATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

"THE AMERICAN COLONISTS WANTED ONLY ONE THING FROM ENGLAND... FREEDOM FROM TYRANNY. FREEDOM TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN DESTINIES.

"FREEDOM!"

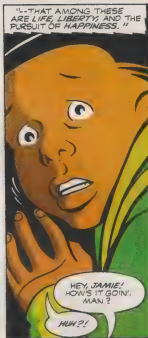
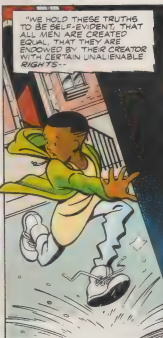
PAUL
KUPPERBERG
WRITER

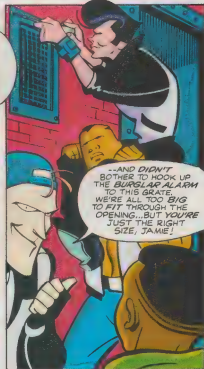
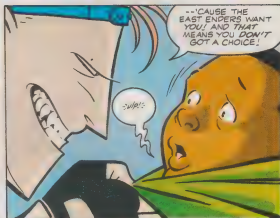
**RICK
BURCHETT
ARTIST**

TOM
MCGRAW
COLORIST

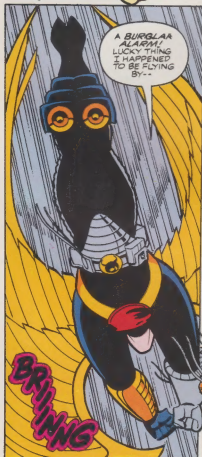
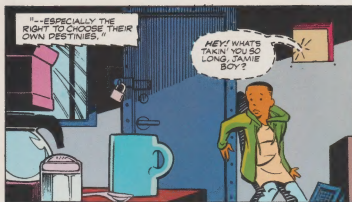
KEVIN
CUNNINGHAM
LETTERER

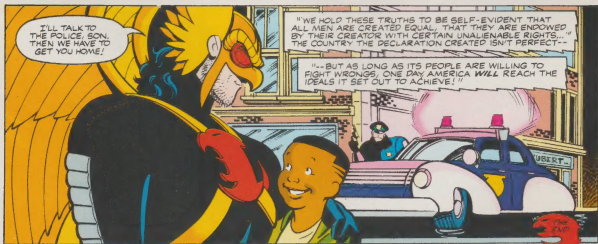
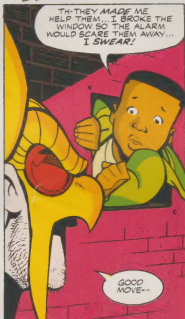
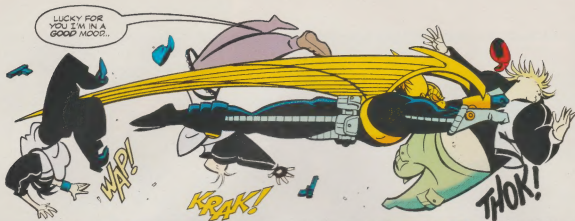
CHARLES
KOCHMAN
EDITOR











IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF...



In the story, *Crime Wave*, you will meet some of Gotham City's deadliest villains. But one of them is double crossing the others.

Batman and Robin set out to bring the criminal to justice.

And by popular demand, also appearing in next month's issue will be the Amazon Princess herself,

Wonder Woman. Find out what strange creatures she must fight to bring peace to Gateway City in *Pandora's Plague*.

Your special gift with next month's magazine

BATMAN GLOW STICKERS

Our next issue will feature a second Batman and Robin story – *Trial Run*.



In this exciting adventure, Batman gives Robin an advanced training course. But it turns into a dangerous lesson when Robin risks his life to save an innocent victim of a crime. It all takes place on a Gotham roof top. You'll also get a painted poster of this great story in the centre of the magazine to put up on your wall.

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My card number is (13 or 16 digits)

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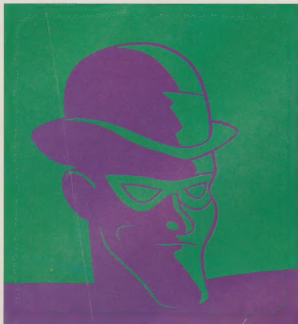
Expiry date.....

Signature.....Date.....

From time to time we may mail you with information on other products or services offered by us or other reputable companies we think will be of interest to you. If you do not wish to receive this then please tick the box. ☐

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 8 differences between the two pictures of the dancing Riddler?



Answers: 1. "?" on tie, 2. Ball on cane, 3. Bottom of cane, 4. Hat band, 5. Handkerchief, 6. Finger, 7. Bottom of "?" on right, 8. Top of "?" behind leg.